

## EXHIBIT A



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BRINGING LAW TO YOUR IDEAS

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January 16, 2004

Randolph J. Huis  
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**Mr. Robert A. Rubino**  
296 Weigold Road  
Tolland, CT 06084

Re: File: OIC-PT024.1  
New U.S. Patent Application Entitled:  
***RUGGEDIZED OPTICAL FIBER ARRANGEMENT DEVICE***

Dear Mr. Rubino:

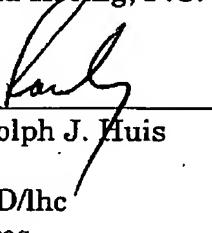
We are in the process of filing a non-provisional patent application based on U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/445,377, filed February 5, 2003 for which you are a named inventor. Enclosed is a copy of the application for your review along with a Declaration and Assignment Document. Schott Glas has requested that the application be assigned to Schott Corporation.

Please review the Application, Declaration and Assignment. If all are accurate, please sign and date the Declaration and Assignment where indicated. If possible, please sign the Assignment in the presence of a notary public. Please return all pages of the signed Declaration and Assignment to us at your earliest convenience. A stamped self-addressed envelope is enclosed. Upon receipt of the executed documents, we will file them with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Volpe and Koenig, P.C.

By   
Randolph J. Huis

RJH/DPD/lhc  
Enclosures

cc: Schott Glas (Dr. Marcus Bodesheim)

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